

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 31, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 5, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 18, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 2, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 5, 2005

SENATE BILL

No. 1081

Introduced by Senator Ducheny

February 22, 2005

~~An act to add Sections 79569 and 79569.5 to the Water Code, relating to habitat restoration. An act relating to resources, and making an appropriation therefor.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1081, as amended, Ducheny. ~~Resource protection and restoration. Maywood Riverfront Park grant.~~

Existing law establishes the River Protection Subaccount in the Watershed Protection Account for the acquisition and restoration of riparian habitat, riverine aquatic habitat, and other lands in close proximity to rivers and streams and for river and stream trail projects.

This bill would appropriate \$2,016,000 from the River Protection Subaccount to the Secretary of the Resources Agency for the Maywood Riverfront Park grant.

~~Existing law requires the Secretary of the Resources Agency, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Water Resources, the Salton Sea Authority, appropriate air quality districts, and the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to undertake a restoration study to determine a preferred alternative for the~~

restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem.

~~The Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, an initiative measure approved by the voters at the November 5, 2002, statewide general election, authorizes, for the purposes of financing a safe drinking water, water quality, and water reliability program, the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$3,440,000,000, of which \$50,000,000 is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Wildlife Conservation Board for the acquisition, protection, and restoration of land and water resources necessary to meet state obligations for regulatory requirements related to California's allocation of water supplies from the Colorado River.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature that any of those bond moneys appropriated to the board for that purpose that are unencumbered on or after January 1, 2006, be used exclusively for the purpose of restoration of the Salton Sea and related activities. The bill would require the board to prepare and submit to the Legislature, on or before June 1, 2006, a report regarding a specified land purchase. The bill would require the Department of Water Resources to seek to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the authority, the United States Geological Survey, and the United States Bureau of Reclamation to establish a state and federal coordinated plan for the restoration of the Salton Sea. The bill would make findings and declarations relating to the Salton Sea and local input regarding restoration efforts.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: ~~no~~-yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION. 1. The sum of two million sixteen thousand dollars
- 2 (\$2,016,000) is hereby appropriated from the River Protection
- 3 Subaccount, established pursuant to Section 79100 of the Water
- 4 Code in the Watershed Protection Account, to the Secretary of
- 5 the Resources Agency for the Maywood Riverfront Park grant.
- 6 Of this amount, sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) shall be
- 7 allocated to the Secretary of the Resources Agency to administer
- 8 the grant.

1 *SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that the*
2 *appropriation made in Section 1 provides funding for*
3 *construction costs associated with the completion of the*
4 *Maywood Riverfront Park, as defined in the existing river*
5 *parkway grant approved by the Resources Agency, including*
6 *costs incurred prior to the availability of this appropriation.*

7 ~~SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the~~
8 ~~following:~~

9 ~~(a) The Alamo River and the New River are important~~
10 ~~resources and inland tributaries to the Salton Sea.~~

11 ~~(b) Improving water quality and maintaining the quantity of~~
12 ~~water in the Salton Sea in a manner that supports and preserves~~
13 ~~the integrity of existing Colorado River water entitlements and~~
14 ~~contracts of California parties, the Quantification Settlement~~
15 ~~Agreement, and Section 2081.7 of the Fish and Game Code, are~~
16 ~~extremely important goals in establishing a restoration plan for~~
17 ~~the Salton Sea.~~

18 ~~(c) The restoration of the Salton Sea is important to the~~
19 ~~economic development of Imperial County and Riverside~~
20 ~~County.~~

21 ~~(d) Local input on restoration efforts should be taken into~~
22 ~~consideration at every phase of the restoration plan.~~

23 ~~(e) The state should improve the opportunities for involvement~~
24 ~~of local entities in planning for the restoration of the Salton Sea~~
25 ~~and implementing a restoration alternative.~~

26 ~~SEC. 2. Section 79569 is added to the Water Code, to read:~~

27 ~~79569. It is the intent of the Legislature that any moneys~~
28 ~~appropriated to the Wildlife Conservation Board pursuant to~~
29 ~~Section 79568 that are unencumbered on or after January 1,~~
30 ~~2006, be used exclusively for the purpose of the restoration of the~~
31 ~~Salton Sea and related activities. As used in this section,~~
32 ~~“restoration of the Salton Sea and related activities” does not~~
33 ~~include land acquisition on the Lower Colorado River that is not~~
34 ~~related to the restoration of the Salton Sea.~~

35 ~~SEC. 3. Section 79569.5 is added to the Water Code, to read:~~

36 ~~79569.5. (a) The Wildlife Conservation Board shall prepare~~
37 ~~and submit to the Legislature, on or before June 1, 2006, a report~~
38 ~~on the purchase of lands in Riverside County commonly known~~
39 ~~as “Travis Ranch.”~~

1 ~~(b) The report shall include an explanation of the rationale for~~
2 ~~the purchase and its consistency with existing law, including, but~~
3 ~~not limited to, Chapters 611 and 613 of the Statutes of 2003.~~

4 ~~SEC. 4. The Department of Water Resources shall seek to~~
5 ~~enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Salton Sea~~
6 ~~Authority, the United States Geological Survey, and the United~~
7 ~~States Bureau of Reclamation to establish a state and federal~~
8 ~~coordinated plan for the restoration of the Salton Sea.~~

9 ~~SEC. 5. No provision in this act shall be construed in a~~
10 ~~manner that is inconsistent with existing Colorado River water~~
11 ~~entitlements and contracts of California parties, the~~
12 ~~Quantification Settlement Agreement, Section 2081.7 of the Fish~~
13 ~~and Game Code, or the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species~~
14 ~~Conservation Plan.~~